



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
16 EDISON DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04330



MICHAEL P. CANTARA
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 2003
9:30 AM
MAINE EMS CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

Board Members: Carol Pillsbury (chair), Steve Leach (chair-elect), John Burton (ex-officio), John Alexander, Bob Ashby, Alan Azzara, Leo Bouchard, Oden Cassidy, Peter DiPietrantonio, Richard Doughty, Bill Dunwoody, Sue Dupler, Jim Farrell, Kevin Kendall, Penelope Lovejoy

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dwight Corning, Dawn Kinney, Drexell White, Laura Yustak Smith, Esq. (AAG)

1. Introduction of Guests
None present.

2. Minutes of the September 3, 2003, meeting
MOTION: To approve the minutes of the September 3, 2003, meeting as presented. (Alexander; second by Farrell) Unanimous.

3. Old Business
None at this time

4. New Business
a. Legislative/Budget Items
EMS Study bill – Jay reported that the balance of funds required to pay for the study may be forthcoming in the next week or two. He has been working with the Bureau of Highway Safety to obtain the remaining \$25,000. Commissioner Cantara has given his approval and now the Bureau is awaiting approval from NHTSA to reassign funds previously budgeted in other areas.

Department bills – MEMS has submitted text to the Governor's Office requesting two bills for consideration during the Legislature's 2nd Regular Session (2004). The first is to make technical corrections to the EMS Law and bring the Law into alignment with the EMS Rules and to be more consistent with statutes affecting other licensing boards. The second is to extend the deadline for AVOC training from January 1, 2005, to January 1, 2007.

b. Operations Team Action Items
The Ops Team met on 9/30/03, but there are no items requiring Board action.

c. Investigations Committee Action Items

MOTION: To ratify the consent agreement with Andrew Howell (Bouchard; second by Dunwoody). Unanimous.

MOTION: To ratify the consent agreement with Stephanie Pooler (Bouchard; second by Kendall). Unanimous.

MOTION: To ratify the consent agreement with Nelson Bowdoin (Dunwoody; second by Bouchard). Unanimous.

MOTION: To ratify the Investigation Committee minutes of September 3, 2003, as corrected (record Knowlton as absent and Leach as present). (Bouchard; second by Farrell). Unanimous.

d. DPS Strategic Planning

Nothing new to report. The DPS workgroup will have its first meeting on Friday, October 3. Progress reports will be provided at future meetings.

e. Other

EMS Medical Director

Jay reported that the search committee met with the candidates interested in this position. The committee's recommendation is that Steven Diaz, M.D., be appointed as the state EMS medical director effective 1/1/2004.

Dr. Diaz is currently the assistant emergency department director at MaineGeneral Medical Center in Waterville and the Regional Medical Director for KVEMS. Dr. Diaz has been an active member of both the KV Council and the MDPB for several years. Prior to attending medical school, Dr. Diaz was a paramedic in California.

MOTION: To approve the recommendation of the search committee that Steven E. Diaz, M.D., be appointed state EMS medical director effective January 1, 2004. (Bouchard; second by Farrell). Carried with 2 abstentions (Pillsbury, Dunwoody)

5. Staff Update

a. MEMS

1. Jay reported that MEMS has received the Notice of Grant Award for the second year of the Trauma/EMS System Grant (\$40,000) and the second year of the Rural Access to Emergency Devices Grant (\$274,316). The Year Two EMSC Grant Application is due mid-November – MEMS anticipates \$100,000 in funding from the latter, much of which goes to support the regional EMSC/Injury Prevention activities.
2. E- Run Reporting. MEMS has been working with the Bureau of Highway Safety for funding to develop both a client and web based reporting system. The initial phase will include an assessment of the data collection system and information technology resources. Following this will be the software and system development.
3. Dwight reported on several highlights from the recent National Council of State EMS Training Coordinators Council annual meeting.

- The Council has completed year 2 of an EMSC grant that looked at pediatric skill utilization by EMS providers. Data from 5 states, which have well defined pediatric data, was utilized, including Maine.
 - The Council has also been involved in the rollout of the Geriatric EMS (GEMS) program, which is in the process of developing GEMS instructors nationally.
 - An almost completed project which will specify what knowledge and skills are necessary for EMS providers to function effectively in the out of hospital setting, but will not specify who (which level of practice) will have specific knowledge or skills.
 - Scope of Practice Project – This project is still in the fairly early stages and will take the work of the Core Content Project and divide it into the levels of providers that should have each piece of knowledge and skills. These levels may or may not look like our current provider levels.
 - Other topics that received a significant amount of discussion at the meeting included: Electronic Testing and Computer Adaptive Testing Cross border clinical sites, and California paramedic students being eligible to take the NREMT exam prior to all of their clinical component being completed.
 - Jay noted that Dwight was also re-elected to a second term as president of NCSEMSTC.
4. Dwight is also working with the Criminal Justice Academy and the Family Violence Project on a Domestic Violence training module for EMS providers. The goal is to have a 2 hour awareness program available later this year.
 5. SBI background checks officially began today. There has been a great deal of information distributed to the EMS community about this requirement and most seem understanding.
 6. MEMS has been working closely with the Bureau of Health Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness as OPHEP develops their RFP for Regional Resource Centers. The initial draft did not address several areas of interest to EMS (Communications, Surveillance, and Medical Control training), but Jay will continue to provide input in hopes of having these added before the RFP is released later in October.
 7. The National Association of State EMS Directors annual meeting will be the week of October 13-18 in Chicago. Jay will be attending the entire week, and Drs Burton and Diaz will be attending the medical director meeting that is part of the NASEMSD meeting.
 8. Jay also reported on the recent death of Jerry Durnbaugh. Jerry was actively involved with EMS for many years and at many levels. Services will be in Blue Hill on October 4.

b. MDPB

1. Dr. Burton reported that at the September meeting there was a presentation of several studies regarding transporting certain cardiac patients to a hospital with a Cath Lab. Following the discussion, it was agreed that MEMS should form a Cardiac Advisory Committee to review the EMS treatment/transport of these patients. This will likely begin after the first of the year when Dr. Diaz takes over as medical director.

2. Approval was given to a group of hospitals and services in southern Maine to pilot test use of CPAP. This project was initially approved for 2 years with reports to the MDPB every six months.
3. Due to a scheduling conflict, Dr. Burton will not be at the November meeting – and in the event that there is no December meeting, he thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as state medical director for the past 4 years.
4. There will be no MDPB meeting in October – the next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 19th.
5. The next MDPB meeting will be on Wednesday, November 17 @ 9:30.

c. Other

1. Jay reminded members that the Board will be having its annual “Town Meeting” as part of the Mid Coast EMS (Samoset) Conference on Friday, November 14 @ 7:00 PM. There is also a similar meeting at 0830 on Saturday with the MDPB.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40AM.